

ABSTRACT

An access control system for controlling access to a vehicle and reconfiguring the vehicle to disable or enable operator smart keys is disclosed. An electronic controller in the vehicle receives signals indicating the presence of a master smart key in the vehicle. Once it determines that a master key is present, it permits one or more individual operator smart keys to be programmed. The identification numbers of these smart keys are stored in an electronic memory of the vehicle. Operators who subsequently insert these keys into the vehicle's ignition will be able to start and operate the vehicle.